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- 2712
- 2713
- 2714

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. & S. B. REGISTRY
No. S. B. D 2712
Date 15 : 11 : 31

November

14,

1.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. C.I.D. No.1233/31 of November 6, regarding Vasili Palecek alias Dietrich Keller and to thank you for the information contained therein.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



Deputy Commissioner (Crime).

Inspector General of Police,

Police Headquarters,

Hongkong.

JFB
M.O. to note noted 16/11/31
RCAZ

Noted
16/11/31 M.O.
To note office
JFB 16/11/31

G.

R.



SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. & S. B. REGISTRY
No. S. B. D. 2712
Date 14/11/31

No. C.I.D. No. 1.100/71.
NUMBER AND DATE SHOULD
BE QUOTED IN REFERENCE
TO THIS LETTER.

**POLICE HEADQUARTERS,
HONG KONG.**

6th November, 1931.

Vasili Il'ichek, alias Dietrich Keller
alias Otto Robespierre, alias S. L. Steinbren.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. S. B. D. 2712 of 10th September I have the honour to inform you that this man was duly banished from this Colony for a period of 10 years on 4.11.31. He left by train for Canton.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,


Inspector General of Police.

Deputy Commissioner of Police,
(Crime and Special Branch),
Shanghai Municipal Council,

S H A N G H A I.

14/11/31
D. G. Frim
S. L. Steinb
Attached
D. G. Frim
14/11/31

(P. 331.)

1. 27/2
2. 28 - 9 - 31
3. 27/2
4. 28 - 9 - 31

G.



R.

No. Cd. 1033/24

NUMBER AND DATE SHOULD
BE QUOTED IN REFERENCE
TO THIS LETTER

**POLICE HEADQUARTERS,
HONG KONG.**

22nd September, 1931.

Sir,

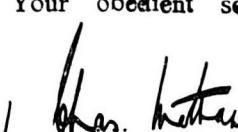
re Vasili Palecek.

I have the honour to acknowledge **with thanks**,
the receipt of your letter S.B.D. 2712, dated 16.9.1931,
the contents of which have been noted.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,


Chas. Nathan
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE
Captain Superintendent of Police
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE

Deputy Commissioner of Police,

(Crime & Special Branch)

Shanghai Municipal Council,

S H A N G H A I.



✓
S.B. D.2712

HONG KONG MUNICIPAL POLICE
& S. I. REGISTRY
S. B. D. 2712
17 - 9 - 31

September 16, 31.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of your letter C.I.D.1233/31 and enclosure of September 5 and to forward herewith a copy of the criminal record of Vasili Palecek alias Dietrich Keller who, it has been found from the fingerprints, is known to us as Otto Robespierre alias Stratton Lorenie Stephan hence the reason, in the absence of fingerprints, for my letter of August 31 stating that the man was not known to us.

* End - 1

JK
17/9

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. C. S.

Deputy Commissioner (Crime).

Inspector General of Police,
Police Headquarters,
Hongkong.

See also file from Reg. No. 667 (1928)
& Central 1294 (1930)

G.

R.

U.S. RECORDS
S. B. D. 2712.

15-9-31

No. S.B.D. 1232/31.

NUMBER AND DATE SHOULD
BE QUOTED IN REFERENCE
TO THIS LETTER.

**POLICE HEADQUARTERS,
HONG KONG,**

5th September 1931.

Sir,

I have for acknowledgment ~~of~~ your letter S.B.D. 2712 dated August 31st 1931, regarding the Bulgarian National, Vasili Palecek alias Dietrich Keller, and have noted that you have nothing in your records concerning him.

As per your request I have the honour to enclose herewith a copy of the finger prints of the said Vasili Palecek which you may retain.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. P. B.
15/9. Recd
one photo detached
for file J. B.
Luncheon record
Attached
15/9/31.

p. Inspector General of Police.



Deputy Commissioner of Police,

(Crime and Special Branch),

Shanghai Municipal Council,

S H A N G H A I.

Name... VASILY PALECEK

This Form is not to be pinned

Aliases...

Prison... Victoria Hong Kong

Classification No

Prison Reg. No... 11351

5

18.

17

19.

RIGHT HAND.

1.—R. Thumb.	2.—R. Fore Finger.	3.—R. Middle Finger.	4.—R. Ring Finger.	5.—R. Little Finger.
				
(Fold.)			(Fold.)	

Impressions to be so taken that the flexure of the last joint shall be immediately above the black line marked (Fold.). If the impression of any digit be defective a second print may be taken in the vacant space above it.

When a finger is missing or so injured that the impression cannot be obtained, or deformed and yields a bad print the fact should be noted under Remarks.

LEFT HAND.

6.—L. Thumb.	7.—L. Fore Finger.	8.—L. Middle Finger.	9.—L. Ring Finger.	10.—L. Little Finger.
				
(Fold.)			(Fold.)	

LEFT HAND

Plain impressions of the four fingers taken simultaneously



RIGHT HAND

Plain impressions of the four fingers taken simultaneously



Impressions taken by

Rank

Date

Superintendent's Signature

Date

Classified at H. C. Registry by

Date

Tested at H. C. Registry by

Date

Police Court Case No.

9249/50 K.

Turn Over

Name V. PLEČEK

Age. 40

Height 5-9 1/2

Sentence. 3. *closed*. H. L.

Date of Sentence 5-8-31

Offence LARCENY BY TRICK.

Immediately after
signature is written

Right for finer print.

PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS.

Name	Date of Sentence	Offence	Sentence	Case No.	Criminal Record No.

S.B. D. 2712



August 31, 31.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter C.I.D. 1233/31 of August 21, and to thank you for the information contained therein concerning a Bulgarian national, Vasili Palecek, alias Dietrich Keller, and also for copies of his photograph.

There is nothing in the records of this force against him and I would be thankful if you will send me a copy of his fingerprint for record.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Deputy Commissioner (Crime).

Inspector General of Police,
Police Headquarters,
Hengkong.

G.

R.

SHANGHAI
C. & S. B. CO.
No. S. B. D. 2712
Date 28.8.31

No. C.I.D. 1833/31.
NUMBER AND DATE SHOULD
BE QUOTED IN REFERENCE
TO THIS LETTER.

**POLICE HEADQUARTERS.
HONG KONG.**

21st August 1931.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose for your information a copy of a Police report concerning, and two photos, a Bulgarian national named Vasili Palecek alias Dietrich Keller, architect, aged 40 years, born at Sofia, Bulgaria, who was convicted in this Colony on 5.8.31 for "larceny by trick of a diamond ring". He is now serving a sentence of 3 months H.L. and has been recommended for deportation on the expiration of that term.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,


M. J. MacLachlan
p. Inspector General of Police.

Deputy Commissioner of Police,

(Crime & Special Branch)

Shanghai Municipal Council,

S H A N G H A I.

Rept. by file of
C. & S. B.
8/8/31. J.M.

No record of P. B.
18/8/31. No record.
C. & S. B. Reg. 8/8/31.

Vasili Palecek alias Dietrich Keller, aged 40 years, said to be an architect and engineer born in Sofia, Bulgaria.

The above named man first came to the notice of the Hong Kong Police on 27.7.31, apparently having arrived from Shanghai on a Japanese steamer the previous day. He engaged two of the best rooms in the Peninsula Hotel, registering his name as D. Keller and his nationality as German.

At about 11 a.m. on 27.7.31, this man went to the Wai Kee Jewellers shop which is in Queen's Road Central adjoining the Hong Kong Hotel. He saw the proprietor and requested to be shown some diamond rings, and finally selected an 18ct. gold ring with a 2ct. diamond set in a claw valued \$2250.00.

Producing the keys to his rooms at his Hotel, he asked the jeweller to bring the ring to his hotel the same afternoon saying that he wished to submit it first to the person to whom he was presenting it.

The Jeweller accordingly went to "Keller's" rooms at the Peninsula Hotel at about 3 p.m. the same day, and produced the ring. Keller took it away to the adjoining room on three different occasions giving the jeweller the impression that it was being inspected there by Keller's wife.

After asking a few questions about the price of the ring, Keller left the room this time not returning. The jeweller remained seated for another half hour and becoming uneasy, went out and questioned the lift boys, and discovered Keller had left the building.

At 4.30 p.m. the jeweller reported the matter to the Police, and at about 7 a.m. ^{ON FOLLOWING MORNING Palecek} he was arrested at Tai Po Railway Station being then in possession of a ticket to Shum Chun which is just over the border in Chinese Territory. It was also found that he had attempted to book for Canton, but on hearing the Canton Express did not stop at Tai Po, had taken the ticket to Shum Chun.

Palecek alias Keller was sentenced to 3 months H.L. and has been recommended for deportation on the expiration

of his term of imprisonment. The diamond ring has not so far been recovered.

Substautw
 [redacted] enquiries revealed the fact that about the same time as he was negotiating for the ring, he was also negotiating with another jeweller for pearl necklaces and with a money-changer for the sum of £550. which he said he was to buy for \$12,180.00. Shanghai currency. His plans seem to have miscarried for he absconded with the ring only.

Palecek alias Keller has stated that he arrived in Mukden in 1921 and worked as building engineer with the firm of Lother Marcks, Civil Contractor, for 9 years. This firm failed and he arrived in Shanghai with his wife and children on 3.1.31. In the middle of May, being unemployed in Shanghai, he sent his family back to Bulgaria.

He further states that having been advised by friends to seek employment in Sumatra, he left Shanghai by S.S. Lushan Maru arriving Hong Kong 26.7.31. (before leaving Shanghai he states he obtained a passport there). No evidence to support his statement that he arrived here on the S.S. Lushan Maru has been found.

Description.

Aged 40 years, 5'9 $\frac{1}{2}$ " tall, slim build, red curly hair and slight red moustache.

John Kotras. Ples.

2.8.31

Copy

10-3-31
S. B. D.
March 9, 1931.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 5554 of March 4, 1931, enclosing the fingerprints and photograph of one otto robespierre who is wanted by the Public Safety Bureau, Tsingtao, on a charge of defrauding the Grand Hotel at Tsingtao on January 13, 1931, and to forward herewith a copy of my letter to the Tsingtao Authorities which is self explanatory.

Fingerprints and photograph returned

* Encl. 2 herewith as requested.


10/3

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,



D. C. (C. & S. B.)

for Commissioner of Police.

President,

Shanghai Special District Court,

Shanghai.

逕覆者案准

貴院奉年三月四日第
五五五四號開准青島
市公安局函詢青島
大飯店于本年一月大
日被騙案內之教道老
白斯比牙一案希查明
具覆等因准此查閱
於該犯一切詳情業由
該部函覆青島當局
該將該函以抄附上並
將該犯之指紋單及相
片送還即希查上辦理
為荷此致
上海特區法院

March 9,

31.

Sir,

I have to inform you that a letter, dated March 4, 1931, has been received from the president of the Shanghai Special District Court forwarding the fingerprints and photograph of one Otto Robespierre, who is wanted by you on a charge of fraud perpetrated on the Grand Hotel at Tsingtao on January 18, 1931.

Records show that Robespierre was sentenced by the Shanghai Special District Court on February 7, 1931 to four months imprisonment on two counts of fraud and false pretences, which sentence he is now serving in the Municipal Gaol.

The fingerprint record and photograph have been returned to the Shanghai Special District Court.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient servant,


D. C. (C & S.B.)
for Commissioner of Police.

Chief of the Public Safety Bureau,

Tsingtao.

逕啟者案准上海特區地方法院三月四日函轉送奉年一月廿日青島大
飯店被騙案內三教道老白斯比牙指紋單及相片到來經查閱案卷
證明該犯老白斯比牙審于奉年二月七日因被控騙案一起經上海特區
地方法院判處徒刑四個月解送至工部局西牢執行該犯現尚未被
監禁在該牢內除將該犯之指紋單及相片送還上海特區地方法院
院外相互通達即希查收為盼此致

青島市公使局

青島市公使局

副警務部長安士

廿年三月九日

Memorandum.

POLICE FORCE,
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Shanghai. 6 - 3 - 1931
To Regents

1. Draft letter to Tsinhsia Police giving information that Robespierre is in gaol etc. and that record returned to A.A.G.B.

2. Draft letter to bomb giving same information, enclosing records, and mention that Tsinhsia Police have been informed


C. H. (C. H. C. S. P.)

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE. D. 27/2
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE. e 17-9-31

Translation of Despatch from the Shanghai Special District Court.

No. 5554.

March 4, 1931.

The Commissioner of Police,

Shanghai Municipal Council.

Sir,

I have to inform you of the receipt of a despatch from the Public Safety Bureau, Tsingtau, to the following effect:-

"On January 29, one Zang Kuanh Tshen, Manager of the Tsingtau Grand Hotel, reported to our Superintendent on Special Affairs, Mr. Oen Tuh Woo, that on January 18, one Norwegian named 'Vah Er Li Too' went to his hotel and stayed there for two days. When the person left he forgot to take away the package with an inscription of 'U.S. \$500. equivalent to \$10,000' on the outside, which was given to the Hotel Manager to turn over to the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank for safe-keeping. In order to put himself in a safe position the hotel manager made an application before Superintendent Oen for that the contents of the package be examined."

"On the authority of this Bureau, Superintendent Oen went with a representative from the Japanese Consulate and the hotel manager to the Bank on January 30 with a view to examining the contents of the package referred to. When the package was unsealed nothing more than 7 or 8 pieces of pebbles wrapped in newspapers could be found. Then, the hotel manager began to be aware that he had been deceived as the person had not paid the hotel rent amounting to about \$30."

"The description furnished by the Hotel Manager reminded Superintendent Oen of the criminal named 'Ngauh Dau Lau Bak S Pi Yah' who was arrested in Tsingtau in February of the 17th year of the Republic of China, and was handed over to the Shanghai Municipal Council as requested, and was subsequently sentenced by the late Shanghai Provisional Court to one year's imprisonment for having stolen jwelleries and a draft for £5000. from one Austrian lady. The finger print record and the photo of the said criminal were accordingly shown to the hotel manager who alleged that the original of the photo was the very person he had just described."

"While investigations were going on, Superintendent Oen came across an article in the Tsingtau Tah Ngoo Zu Pau (English) which stated that one notorious cheat, 'Eu Too Loo Pi S Bi Er' otherwise known as 'Vah Zae Zu Sau Suh' also known as 'Soo Le S Pok Zu' was tried in the Shanghai Special District Court on several counts of larceny by trick. According to the remarks of the Procurator of that Court, the criminal was found to be the very person known as 'Ngauh Dau Lau Bak S Pi Yah' who was once arrested in Tsingtau and sentenced to one year's imprisonment for larceny by trick. After his release from gaol, he had again committed several counts of larceny by trick in which cases Kuh Suh Restaurant, Henry the Tailor and The Taylor Garage were the victims. He was accordingly handed over at the request of the Municipal Council of the International Settlement where he was subsequently sentenced to 4 months' imprisonment by the Court."

See Case Reg. C. 2550.

"In view of the above, we have to state that 'Eu Too Loo Pi S Bi Er' and 'Ngauh Dau Lau Bak S Pi Yah' are alleged to be the same person. Furthermore, 'Vah Er Li Too', who is wanted in the cheat at the Tsingtau Grand Hotel, and one 'Ngauh Dau Lau Bak S Pi Yah' are alike in appearance. However, ~~with~~ ^{without} sufficient

"proof we dare not to draw our conclusion that they are the same person. Therefore we are forwarding herewith the finger print record and the photo of the criminal concerned with a request that a comparison be made. If it is found to be the same person, we have to request that he be dealt with as in cases of concurrence of offences. Please return the enclosures to us as soon as you are through with them."

In consequence of the above, I am transmitting the finger print record and the photo for your information and have to request that necessary steps be taken with a view to ascertaining whether or not 'Ngauh Dau Lau Bak S Pi Yah' is an alias of 'Vah Er Li Too'. Please return to me the enclosures as soon as you are through with them.

President Yang Shao Shun.

One finger print record attached

H.P.Dung.